

KAWASHIMA et al -- Serial No.: 09/402,277

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62. (Twice Amended) An apparatus according to claim 61 wherein said detector means has sufficient resolution to distinguish between the distinct areas on a surface, each area comprising a plurality of identical nucleic acid strands and a plurality of identical complementary strands thereto; wherein each nucleic acid strand within such an area is located on the surface within a distance of its length from another strand.

Cancel claim 65 without prejudice.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application and entry of the foregoing amendments are respectfully requested.

Claim 62 has been amended in order to define the invention with additional clarity. The revision is believed to moot the rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Non-elected claims 27-30 and 65 have been cancelled without prejudice.

Claims 1-18, 21-26 and 59-64 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as allegedly being obvious over Hosoi et al in view of Cheng et al. The rejection is traversed.

As pointed out in the Amendment filed December 12, 2000, Hosoi is concerned with a particular method of